

Smith (TX)	Tonko	Wasserman
Smith (WA)	Torres	Schultz
Smucker	Trott	Watson Coleman
Soto	Tsongas	Weber (TX)
Speier	Turner	Webster (FL)
Stefanik	Upton	Wenstrup
Stewart	Valadao	Westerman
Stivers	Vargas	Williams
Suozy	Veasey	Wilson (FL)
Swalwell (CA)	Vela	Wilson (SC)
Takano	Velázquez	Wittman
Taylor	Visclosky	Womack
Tenney	Wagner	Woodall
Thompson (CA)	Walberg	Yarmuth
Thompson (MS)	Walden	Yoder
Thompson (PA)	Walker	Yoho
Thornberry	Walorski	Young (AK)
Tiberi	Walters, Mimi	Young (IA)
Tipton	Walz	Zeldin
Titus		

NAYS—1

Amash

NOT VOTING—21

Boyle, Brendan F.	Gutiérrez	Pingree
Buchanan	Jenkins (KS)	Pittenger
Delaney	LaMalfa	Rush
Ellison	McCauley	Waters, Maxine
Faso	Meeks	Welch
Galleo	Moore	Zinke
Garamendi	Moulton	
	Mulvaney	

□ 1854

Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. BUCK, Ms. ROY-BAL-ALLARD, and Mr. HUFFMAN changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: “A bill to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes.”

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THANKING JOYCE MEYER

(Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, all of us have people in our lives, in these vocations, without whom none of this would be possible. Today, I want to say good luck and good-bye to one of those people.

Joyce Meyer, whom many of you know on my staff, is heading to the White House after being with me in this office for 18 years—and, yes, there are some gray hairs here. She and I go back even further than that.

Joyce and I started off as staffers together in the United States Senate. In many ways, we grew up together. We were just kids then, fresh out of college. She went by Joyce Yamat in those days. She was a good friend, but she was an equally good staffer, which is why she was, at that time, one of the first people I asked to come work with me when I, at 28 years old, got elected to the House of Representatives.

She has been at the heart of our team ever since—through every up and down,

every adventure, every budget, every run for office. So much of what we have accomplished has been because of her—because of her leadership, because of her planning, because of her caring nature, because of her deep understanding of how this place works. She really is a person of the House.

Above all, she never, ever forgot and never let me forget whom I was working for: the people of the First District of Wisconsin. She is from Wisconsin. She is from Franklin, Wisconsin, which is a small town in southern Wisconsin, near Milwaukee. She is a Badger. Wisconsin is so much at the heart of who she is. She knows when the deer rut is. She knows that, on Sundays, there are only two things you do: Mass and Packers games in the fall. For all of her years here, she never forgot where she came from.

The truth is we have been through it all together. In fact, she has not just been a confidant or a friend—she is family. I often refer to her as my sister; and, to Joyce, family is at the center of everything. She treated all of our staff like family. She hosted wedding showers and baby showers. She made sure that everyone on our team put their own loved ones first. It is her own family that, through all of these years, has really been her source of inspiration: her parents; her sisters; her husband, Don, who, himself, was part of our team; and, of course, their beautiful and sweet daughter, Eva.

I know it is for a better life for Eva and her generation that Joyce has made serving government her life's work. She could have gone on and done something so much more rewarding to the pocketbook, but she is doing this because she believes in our country.

I will cut this short because, for anyone who knows Joyce, she does not like attention; she does not like the fuss. She is here to serve. She is the best of what we aspire to in public service. This woman has done so much to make us successful, has done so much to make me successful. I just want to thank, from the bottom of my heart, a person who has done so much to make this House successful, and she is Joyce Meyer.

Joyce, I wish you and your family the best of luck. Thank you for serving us so much. Joyce, you are always going to be considered a person of the House of Representatives. Thank you so much, Joyce.

And there is her mom.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER).

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Speaker RYAN for yielding. He admonished us to be brief. So, Joyce, I will be brief.

Often I rise on this floor when we have extraordinary staffers retire on either side of the aisle, Republican or Democrat, and observe what an extraordinary difference they make to the comity that does, in fact, exist but is rarely seen by the public.

Joyce Meyer has been an extraordinary member of our family. Speaker

RYAN says family is important to her. Family is important to all of us, and this is a family. It is sometimes a contentious family, but it is a family.

Frankly, the peacemakers in the family are largely the members of the staff, particularly the highest ranking staffers, and particularly those staffers who have been with each of us and many of us for a significant period of time. They understand the tensions that can be created, but they also understand that there is a responsibility to the American people. Every time I went across the aisle and talked to Joyce Meyer, I knew that she understood that and that she wanted to be a positive force in making this institution work better.

Let me say that Joyce Meyer now has an even bigger responsibility because she is going to the White House. May we all wish her the best in making that institution work better.

Joyce, God bless you and Godspeed.

BOOSTING RATES OF AMERICAN VETERAN EMPLOYMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 974) to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in awarding a contract for the procurement of goods or services, to give a preference to offerors that employ veterans, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 407, nays 0, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 87]

YEAS—407

Abraham	Blumenauer	Castro (TX)
Adams	Blunt Rochester	Chabot
Aderholt	Bonamici	Chaffetz
Aguilar	Bost	Cheney
Allen	Brady (PA)	Chu, Judy
Amash	Brady (TX)	Cicilline
Amodei	Brat	Clark (MA)
Arrington	Bridenstine	Clarke (NY)
Babin	Brooks (AL)	Clay
Bacon	Brooks (IN)	Cleaver
Banks (IN)	Brown (MD)	Clyburn
Barletta	Brownley (CA)	Coffman
Barr	Buck	Cohen
Barragán	Bucshon	Cole
Barton	Budd	Collins (GA)
Bass	Burgess	Collins (NY)
Beatty	Bustos	Comer
Bera	Butterfield	Comstock
Bergman	Byrne	Conaway
Beyer	Calvert	Connolly
Biggs	Capuano	Conyers
Bilirakis	Carbajal	Cook
Bishop (GA)	Cárdenas	Cooper
Bishop (MI)	Carson (IN)	Correa
Bishop (UT)	Carter (GA)	Costa
Black	Carter (TX)	Costello (PA)
Blackburn	Cartwright	Courtney
Blum	Castor (FL)	Cramer